

**From:** jbmitch7@abbott.office.aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 6:00pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement - Not Strong Enough

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to register my disagreement with the proposed settlement in the Microsoft case.

I feel that this company is incapable of restraining itself, and will take advantage of any loopholes in the settlement to the greatest extent possible. If there was any doubt about its behavior before, its actions during and since the trial make this abundantly clear. Who can forget, for example, the doctored video tape shown to the judge by Microsoft. And since the trial there are numerous examples of further anti-competative behavior. Just in the last couple of weeks I've seen the following items reported:

1. Microsoft is suing a company making a Linux-based operating system that will run Windows applications, (Lindows - see <http://www.lindows.com>). Microsoft says that consumers will confuse the name Lindows with Windows. Huh? It seems more likely they are trying to hurt a potential competitor by piling on legal bills and problems.
2. Microsoft has filed a motion to bar the public and the media from seeing depositions related to the case, (these depositions having been opened by court order). Article on the subject at [http://dailynews.yahoo.com/h/nf/20020110/tc/15719\\_1.html](http://dailynews.yahoo.com/h/nf/20020110/tc/15719_1.html) What are they trying to hide?
3. Microsoft recently tried to rig a poll at ZDNet, (story at <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/story/0,,t269-s2102244,00.html>), to make it appear as though their .NET initiative was gaining massive ground. It's a lie designed to try to convince IT people to start using their product.

If these don't seem to be a big deal, consider that I found these three items for the last two weeks just from a quick search on a website, (<http://www.slashdot.org>). The number and type of items from the last two weeks is the norm, not the exception. If you want to see more examples of their bullying and dishonest tactics, go to slashdot and search. You'll find many, many more.

Microsoft has done everything it can to prevent competition. It has broken the law and has demonstrated that it will continue to do so, as well as lie and manipulate wherever possible. The government is the only entity capable of restraining them. Please, for the sake of businesses trying to innovate and make a living, for the sake of freedom

of choice for the American consumer, assume that Microsoft will try to subvert any settlement and will continue its monopolistic practices. Fashion a new settlement that doesn't give them any wiggle room - one that assumes the worst in terms of their future behavior. They have proven, and continue to prove, that this is the only reasonable course of action.

Sincerely,

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